

CARPET RECYCLING IN CALIFORNIA



CarpetRecovery.org/CA



**California Carpet
Stewardship Program**

An initiative of CARE: Carpet America Recovery Effort

Carpet installers carefully remove carpet and get it ready for recycling.



What happens to your old carpet?

Californians want to know what happens to their old carpet. This bulky, fossil-fuel based material takes up a lot of space in our landfills, and stays there, unchanged, for hundreds of years. But just as we recycle cans and bottles, there are ways to recycle carpet. The California Carpet Stewardship Program is working to find, develop and support the growth of environmentally-friendly uses for recycled carpet materials.

What are the benefits of recycling carpet?

Almost 300 million pounds of carpet are discarded every year in California — carpet that could be recycled into useful new products.

The carpet industry and carpet recyclers have been working to divert tens of millions of pounds of carpet from California landfills. Since 2011, recyclers have collected over one billion pounds of carpet in the state. These efforts have already preserved limited landfill space and saved precious natural resources, but together we can do more.



YOU CAN HELP:

- **BUY WISELY.**

Ask your retailer about eco-friendly carpet and fiber underlayment. Look for products with recycled carpet content.

- **RECYCLE RIGHT.**

Ask your contractor to recycle your old carpet. To find a carpet collection site in your area, visit CarpetRecovery.org/CA

- **LEARN MORE.**

Carpet recycling is a complex business. To learn more about how carpet gets recycled in California, visit CarpetRecovery.org/CA or email CA@CarpetRecovery.org



Carpet is recycled into many useful products, including wheelchair ramps and automotive parts.

Which **products** contain recycled carpet?

You will find recycled carpet material insulating your walls, in carpet padding, wheelchair ramps, even in your car or truck. See products containing recycled California carpet material at CarpetRecovery.org/Products.

Why is this California Carpet Stewardship Assessment charge **on my bill?**

Passed in 2010, AB 2398 is a California law that requires an assessment to be added to all carpet sold in California. The assessment money is used to encourage and support increased reuse and recycling of carpet, in order to reduce waste going to landfill. All retailers in California are required to charge the assessment to customers.

How **much** is the assessment?

The assessment is a per square yard charge on all forms of indoor/outdoor carpet and carpet tile sold in California. A law passed in 2019 requires that the assessment amount reflect how easily the carpet material can be recycled. The assessment amount is based on two factors: carpet type — broadloom vs. tile — and the percent of post-consumer (PC) content in the carpet.

These different assessments are required by law. Area rugs are not included in the assessment.

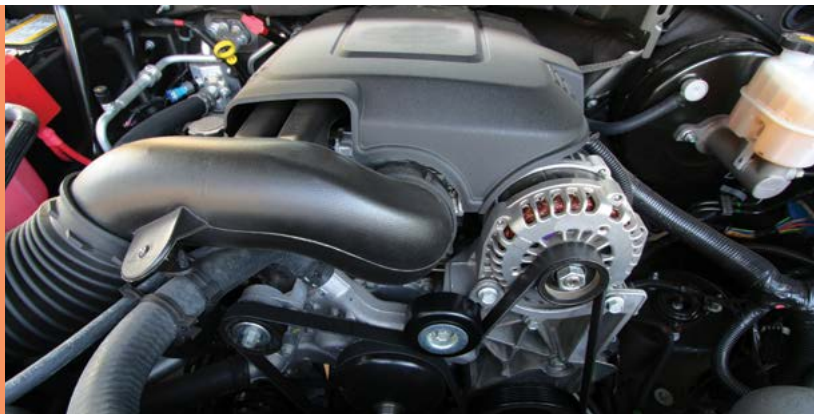
Ask your retailer about the current assessment amount for the carpet you are buying.

Who **receives** the money from the assessment?

The funds collected from the assessment are directed to a set of incentives for collectors, sorters, processors and manufacturers involved in the recycling of post-consumer carpet into new products.



Recycled carpet fibers are turned back into thread to be used in carpet or other materials.





The assessment helps fund increased and more efficient collection such as containers, small custom trailers, weather protection structures and equipment to load recyclable carpet.

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Who is CARE?

Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to advance market-based solutions that increase landfill diversion and reuse and recycling of post-consumer carpet, and that encourage design for recyclability.

CARE administers the California Carpet Stewardship Program, which is charged with meeting the requirements for carpet recycling set by California law AB 2398 and managed by CalRecycle.

For more information, please visit the CARE website at

CarpetRecovery.org/CA.



What Happens to OLD CARPET?

1. TEAR-OUT

Worn carpet is removed by installers. The carpet needs to be clean and dry in order to be recycled.



2. COLLECTION

The carpet is collected at a drop-off site.



3. SORTING/PROCESSING

The carpet is sorted by fiber type, then goes to a processor, where it is recycled into fiber material, plastic pellets or filler.



4. MANUFACTURE

The recycled carpet material then goes to manufacturers, where it is used in a wide array of products, including carpet, padding, mats, insulation and more.

Thank you for doing your part to
RECYCLE CARPET.



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